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DPD-8759-59

23 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Materiel Branch, DPD

SUBJECT : Familiarization Trips

REFERENCE : DPD-8634-59 dtd 21 Dec 59

1. I have read with interest your memorandum of reference, and I must admit that I find myself in the position of no basic difference in principle but with numerous reservations in fact. To argue against familiarization trips for employees in a complicated activity such as ours is the equivalent of being against sin, but certain practical considerations keep raising their ugly heads. Some of these are:

a. Such trips cost money. The sum total represented by technically non-productive man-hours, commercial air travel expense, and per diem can quickly get out of line, especially at a time when we are being criticized by the DD/P for authorizing too much official travel.

25X1A6a

b. There is the question of how wise it would be to send people to visit either [redacted] or Edwards AFB who are not working in or on the CHALICE/OXCART programs. Since you and your deputy
25X1A9a have both visited these locations, and since [redacted] and his crew are not intimately concerned with the care and feeding of CHALICE/OXCART,
25X1A9a I am not quite sure, except for [redacted] to what group of people your memorandum was addressed.

2. If you can answer my rather inferential question in 1.b. above, certainly I would be willing to take the next step with you, which is to discuss the feasibility of sending a few people to the Coast, with the proper security blessing, on our C-54 or C-47 aircraft when they travel in that direction in support of an operational requirement.

SIGNED

25X1A9a [redacted]

Acting Chief, DPD

DPD:JAC:jr
Distr: Orig - Addressee
1 - Signer
1 - RI/DPD

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